

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Jacques Scheuten et al.

Application No.: 10/574,633

Confirmation No.: 4131

Filed: September 22, 2004

Art Unit: 1795

For: Spherical or Grain-Shaped Semiconductor
Element for use in Solar Cells and Method
for Producing the Same; Method for
Producing a Solar Cell Comprising Said
Semiconductor Element and Solar Cell

Examiner: Miriam Berdichevsky

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

MS Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir

This paper is presented in response to the non-final official action dated April 27, 2010, wherein (a) claims 1-41 were pending, and (b) three-way restriction was required.

This response is timely filed, as it is accompanied by a petition for automatic extension of time to file in the first month, and the requisite petition fee.

Specifically, restriction was required between Group I (claims 1-20 and 41, drawn to a method of making a semiconductor element), Group II (claims 21-27, drawn to a method of making a solar cell), and Group III (claims 28-40, drawn to a solar cell).

Restriction was based on an assertion that the groups do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, the groups lack the same or corresponding special technical feature. According to the action, the common technical feature among the three groups is a spherical or grain-